

court is probably the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) who I would like to talk about his experience and how it relates to what he is doing now.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS).

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, when the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) talks about sometimes it looks like you are just feeling like you are just running errands, that is what we feel some days as Members going back and forth as well. I just wanted to say congratulations and thank you for a job well done over these past few months.

I was a page up here from 1963 to 1967. In those days, you could stay more than 1 year, and I stayed for my complete tenure during high school. The day after 8th grade I started, and the day before I went to college I finished. It paid pretty well in those days. You could live at home, and my family was right across the river in Northern Virginia.

But you learn a lot of things. One is to try to bring some balance to a very busy life, and I hope you have learned something about time management with this. This may confront you throughout your life, in college, in your careers. If you can just take away from here that understanding of how important it is to organize and get things done, it is going to put you in great stead as you move through life.

I hope you have a great appreciation and love of for this institution, which is what I had when I left. Whether you decide to go into politics or decide to be a refrigerator repairman, it does not make any difference as long as you understand the complexities of government, understand what Members face, what the staffs face and how the system works, it will give you this appreciation, will make you a better citizen.

Maybe it will inspire some of you, from what the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) was saying it already has, to perhaps run for office someday. My appreciation led me to run for office, first at lower levels of government and then finally coming back here as a Member.

You have been here through some very, very interesting times. Think of it, over a 4-year cycle, you are the ones who got to see a change in the Presidency, you got to see the counting of the electoral votes here in the House, and I do not think we had anything since 1877 that is anything close to this, and you got to witness that. You got to see a swearing in of a new Congress and the changes that that brought, passage of some landmark legislation. You have gone through a lot of late nights, some very stressful times and the excitement, the ups and downs that you get in a job like this.

I do not know how many of you spent the night in a phone booth. It is not a very good place. But I can tell you where I come from, Republican Party used to meet in a phone booth. So we are pretty used to that as well.

I just hope that your experience here will inspire you to continue to stay active in government and continue to stay active in helping your fellow citizens. That is ultimately what this is about. This is the way that we give back to our communities and try to make a limited number of dollars to go a long way to help the most people in the community. I hope you will dedicate a good part of your lives to doing that, whether it is in the political or the volunteer or the professional side as you move on.

I want to say, I hope this experience will help you get into the college of your choice next year. It is a nice resume enhancer. Good luck and God-speed to all of you, and thank you for a job well done.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia. A great representative of what your institution brings to service in this country is the service that the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) has done in his time as a Member of Congress.

We are looking forward to you filling some of our shoes in the future. You are our investment in this experiment that we call a constitutional republic. We want to thank you for your service. Now we want you to go out and help make this country a better place.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HART) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Science:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 7, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER, I hereby resign from the House Committee on Science to accept one of the three vacant seats on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. My service on the Science Committee has been worthwhile and rewarding, but as you know, members cannot serve on four committees, so I must step down to change my committee assignment. My highest local legislative priority is to help expand the Katy Freeway in west Houston, and I need to serve on the Transportation Committee to expedite the expansion of this vital freeway.

Thank you for supporting my request to change committees, but above all, thank you for your principled conservative leadership of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

JOHN CULBERSON,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

□ 1345

PRESIDENT BUSH AND INCREDIBLE WHITE HOUSE FORM LETTER COMPUTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HART). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a remarkable automated and superbly efficient computer system in the Capital of this Nation. Madam Speaker, this computer network is extraordinary. It tracks and it responds to the correspondence of more than 500 people. I would note that it is so powerful it is able to keep track of not only the incoming mail from these people on a wide variety of issues but it is also able to respond to each and every one of the people and each and every one of the letters with an identical form letter, which, if you will note, is changed only with regard to the subject matter.

I am not describing a top-secret computer lab at CIA, nor am I describing NASA's computer network at Cape Canaveral. No, Madam Speaker, this computer is located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. This afternoon I rise to discuss this computer and the remarkable White House form letter that it generates.

I share with my colleagues the opportunity to have interacted with this amazing machine on more than a dozen occasions. Each time I have written to President Bush, I have received an identical response. Whether the topic is the energy crisis or election reform, I get the same letter back. More than a dozen letters to date, each faithfully signed by the President's aide, Nicholas Calio, unless Mr. Calio has used an autopen.

I wrote the President about HMO reform, I received the following: "Thank you for your recent letter regarding a bipartisan Patient Protection Act. I have shared your letter with the President's advisers and the appropriate agencies who have been formulating policy recommendations in this area. Your comments are receiving their close and careful attention. Thanks again, Nicholas Calio."

I wrote the President on education, veterans, environment, trade and foreign affairs. I again received the same letter. I say to President Bush, "Thank you." And to you, Nicholas Calio, "Thank you. Your computer serves you well. It has moved the science of computers forward to newer and higher levels."

I would note that with such close attention to detail, it is hard to fathom how the United States ever lost our seat on the United Nations Human Rights Commission. How on earth could our allies be unsatisfied with diplomatic dispatches such as, "I have shared your letter with the President's advisers. Your comments are receiving close and careful attention."